

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5053

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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GABORONE FOR SCHAUFEELE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE MEDIA REACTION TO SMITH STATEMENT

1. SUMMARY: AFTER NO PUBLISHING FOR ONE DAY BECAUSE OF NATIONAL HOLIDAY, NOTICIAS OF SEPTEMBER 28 DEVOTED VIRTUALLY TWO FULL PAGES TO RHODESIAN DEVELOPMENTS. NEWSPAPER TAKES POSITION THAT FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS AND ZIPA REJECT U.S. -UK PROPOSAL. END SUMMARY.

2. LEAD ARTICLE IN NOTICIAS CARRIES MISLEADING HEADLINE: "FIVE PRESIDENTS SUPPORT TOTAL LIBERATION OF ZIMBABWE-NEOCOLONIAL PROPOSALS REJECTED CATEGORICALLY." ARTICLE CONTENDS THAT LAST TWO PARAGRAPHS OF LUSAKA COMMUNIQUE ARE EVIDENCE OF REJECTION.

3. TAKING ITS CUE FROM LEAD ARTICLE, LONG FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL CALLED THE ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE AN IM-

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PERIALIST TRICK TO INSTALL BLACK "TRAITORS AND COUNTER

REVOLUTIONARIES" WHO WILL HELP PERPETUATE NEO-COLONIALISM EDITORIAL CLAIMED THAT BOTH THE FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAD REJECTED PROPOSAL. AT THE LUSAKA MEETING, THE FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS "EXPRESSED THEIR UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT TO THE DETERMINATION OF OUR BROTHER PEOPLE (THE ZIMBABWEANS) TO CONTINUE THE FIGHT UNTIL THE COMPLETE LIBERATION OF ZIMBABWE HAD BEEN ACHIEVED. EDITORIAL CONCLUDED THAT THEIR "REJECTION MEANS THE FAILURE OF THE KISSINGER PLAN".

4. NOTICIAS ALSO CARRIED WHAT WAS PURPORTED TO BE AN STATEMENT OF ZIPA'S REACTION TO SMITH'S SPEECH. ACCORDING TO STATEMENT, ZIPA IS FIGHTING FOR DESTRUCTION OF CAPITALIST SYSTEM OF EXPLOITATION AND OPPRESSION AND THAT SMITH'S SPEECH DEMONSTRATED CLEARLY TO US THAT IT IS HIS INTENTION TO DEFEND THE SYSTEM AGAINST WHAT WE ARE FIGHTING FOR." "ZIPA IS NOT FIGHTING TO HAVE A BLACK PRIME MINISTER INSTALLED IN SALISBURY WHILE THE MACHINERY OF OPPRESSION AND EXPLOITATION IS MAINTAINED IN TACT. THE POSITION OF ZIPA WAS CLEARLY DEFINED SOME DAYS AGO BY THE POLITICAL COMMISSAR WHEN HE SAID: WE ARE NOT RACISTS. WE ARE NOT FIGHTING AGAINST THE SMITH REGIME SIMPLY BECAUSE IT IS WHITE. WE ARE FIGHTING AGAINST THE SYSTEM IT IS PERPETUATING AND DEFENDING." STATEMENT APPLAUDED SMITH'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT MAJORITY RULE WAS INEVITABLE, BUT SAID THIS "IS NOT THE FINAL VICTORY." "THE WAR HAS NOT FINISHED IN ZIMBABWE." THIS IS ONLY THE "BEGINNING OF THE END." COMMENT: THE ZIPA STATEMENT DID NOT ADDRESS ANY SPECIFIC POINTS IN THE SMITH SPEECH AND DID NOT CONTAIN AN OUTRIGHT REJECTION OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHO WAS SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF ZIPA.)

5. NOTICIAS ALSO REPORTED THAT FORMER ZANU LEADER NDABANINGI SITHOLE HAD REJECTED SMITH'S PROPOSALS AS "AN ATTEMPT TO CREATE A NEO-COLONIALIST REGIME IN ZIMBABWE." SITHOLE CLAIMED THAT THE PROPOSALS NEGOTIATED BY SECRETARY KISSINGER WERE "DELIBERATELY CALCULATED TO DISRUPT THE REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE."

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